

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-23 and 25-48 as set forth below.

1. (currently amended) A method of making a fabric from a material comprising the ~~following steps of:~~ feeding material from at least one nozzle onto a moveable belt, wherein said nozzle is moveable for translational movement and the spacing between said nozzle and the belt is adjustable, and wherein flow through said nozzle and translational movement of said nozzle is controlled such that said nozzle dispenses the material in a controlled manner to form the fabric layer-by-layer.
2. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein a plurality of ~~nozzles~~the at least one nozzle are provided in a feed head.
3. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein a plurality of ~~nozzles~~the at least one nozzle are provided in a plurality of feed heads.
4. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3~~of claim 1, wherein the method of manufacturing the fabric comprises selective deposition modeling.
5. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4~~of claim 1, wherein the flow of material through the nozzle is quantized.
6. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 5, wherein the ~~nozzles together dispense~~at least one nozzle dispenses about 12,000 drops per second.
7. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6~~of claim 1, wherein the material is a meltable polymeric material having a viscosity in the range from 2 to 200 Centipoise measured at 20°C.
8. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 7, wherein the material is a meltable polymeric material having a viscosity in the range from 5 to 40 Centipoise measured at 20°C.

9. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, wherein the material is ~~selected from any of the following either alone or in combination:~~at least one of polyamides, co-polyamides, polyesters, co-polyesters, amide esters, olefin resins, urethanes, amide urethanes and sulphones.
10. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 6~~of claim 1, wherein the material comprises a radiation curable material.
11. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 10, wherein the material comprises a UV curable material.
12. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 11, wherein the UV curable material is ~~selected from any of the following either alone or in combination:~~at least one of epoxy acrylates, poltester acrylates, silicone acrylates and urethane acrylates.
13. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 12~~of claim 1, further comprising feeding from at least one nozzle, a temporary support medium for providing temporary support to said material during manufacture of the fabric layer by layer.
14. (currently amended) ~~A~~he method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 13, ~~wherein said method further comprises~~further comprising the step of removing the temporary support medium.
15. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 13 ~~or claim 14~~, wherein the temporary support medium comprises a material selected from hot melt resins and waxes.
16. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 3~~of claim 1, wherein the method of manufacture of the fabric comprises fused deposition modeling.
17. (currently amended) ~~A~~The method as ~~claimed in~~of claim 16, wherein the material is extruded from ~~one or more~~at least one of the nozzles.

18. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ of claim 16 or claim 17, wherein the material is selected from any of the following either alone or in combination: at least one of polyesters, polyamides, high molecular weight polyethylenes, polyphenylene sulphide, thermoplastic polyurethanes and PEEK.

19. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in any of claims 16 to 18~~ of claim 16, wherein said material is fed to the nozzle as a flexible strand of solid material.

20. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in any of claims 16 to 19~~ of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing a temporary support medium for providing temporary support to said material during manufacture of the fabric layer by layer.

21. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ of claim 20, ~~wherein said method further comprises~~ further comprising the step of removing the temporary support medium.

22. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in~~ of claim 20 or claim 21, wherein the temporary support medium comprises a material selected from the following either alone or in combination: at least one of poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline), polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, methyl vinyl ether, polyvinyl pyrrolidone-based polymers, maleic acid-based polymers and alkali-soluble base polymers containing carboxylic acid and plasticiser.

23. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 22~~ of claim 1, wherein means are provided for feeding an array of machine direction yarns into the fabric.

24. (original) A method of making a fabric by Free Form Fabrication.

25. (currently amended) A ~~The method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 24~~ of claim 1, wherein the fabric is papermachine clothing.

26. (currently amended) An apparatus for making a fabric from a material layer-by-layer, the apparatus ~~comprising~~ comprising: at least one nozzle and a moveable belt, the nozzle being operable to feed material onto the moveable belt, wherein the nozzle is moveable for

translational movement and the spacing between the nozzle and the belt is adjustable, and wherein flow through said nozzle and translational movement of said nozzle is controlled such that said nozzle dispenses the material in a controlled manner to form the fabric layer by layer.

27. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~of claim 26, wherein a plurality of nozzles are provided in a feed head.

28. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~of claim 26, wherein the apparatus comprises a plurality of feed heads.

29. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in any of claims 26 to 28~~of claim 26, wherein the apparatus manufactures the fabric by selective deposition modeling.

30. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in any of claims 26 to 29~~of claim 26, wherein the flow through the at least one nozzle is quantized.

31. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~of claim 30, wherein the ~~nozzles together dispense~~at least one nozzle dispenses about 12,000 drops per second.

32. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in any of claims 26 to 31~~of claim 26, wherein the material is a meltable polymeric material having a viscosity in the range from 2 to 200 Centipoise measured at 20°C.

33. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~of claim 32, wherein the material is a meltable polymeric material having a viscosity in the range from 5 to 40 Centipoise measured at 20°C.

34. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus ~~as claimed in any of claims 26 to 33~~of claim 26, wherein the material is ~~selected from any of the following either alone or in combination:~~ at least one of polyamides, co-polyamides, polyesters, co-polyesters, amide esters, olefin resins, urethanes, amide urethanes and sulphones.

35. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 26 to 31~~of claim 26, wherein the material comprises a radiation curable material.
36. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the material comprises a UV curable material.
37. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 36, wherein the UV curable material is ~~selected from any of the following either alone or in combination:~~at least one of epoxy acrylates, poltester acrylates, silicone acrylates and urethane acrylates apparatus manufactures the fabric by selective deposition modeling.
38. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 26 to 37~~of claim 26, further comprising at least one second nozzle for distributing temporary support to said material during manufacture of the fabric layer by layer.
39. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 38, wherein said apparatus comprises means for removing the temporary support material.
40. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 38 ~~or claim 39~~, wherein the temporary support medium comprises a material selected from hot melt resins or waxes.
41. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 26 to 28~~of claim 26, wherein the apparatus manufactures the fabric by fused deposition modelling.
42. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 41, wherein the material is extruded from the at least one or more nozzles~~nozzle~~.
43. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 41 ~~or claim 42~~, wherein the material is ~~selected from any of the following either alone or in combination:~~at least one of polyesters, polyamides, high molecular weight polyethylenes, polyphenylene sulphide, thermoplastic polyurethanes and PEEK.

44. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 41 to 43~~of claim 41, wherein said material is fed to the at least one nozzle as a flexible strand of solid material.

45. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 41 to 44~~of claim 41, wherein a further support material is fed via at least one ~~or more nozzles~~second nozzle for providing temporary support to said material during the manufacture of the fabric layer by layer.

46. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 45, wherein said apparatus comprises means for removing the temporary support material.

47. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in~~of claim 45 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the temporary support medium comprises ~~a material selected from the following either alone or in combination:~~at least one of poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline), polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, methyl vinyl ether, polyvinyl pyrrolidone-based polymers, maleic acid-based polymers and alkali-soluble base polymers containing carboxylic acid and plasticiser.

48. (currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus as ~~claimed in any of claims 26 to 47~~of claim 26, wherein the apparatus comprises means for feeding an array of machine direction yarns into the fabric.